

Please replace paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] Accordingly, if the above described process is used via a computer network ~~[based]~~, a third party/licensor may be able to accurately track individual merged images and their designs and the quantity of base images and/or merged images output for a particular operator/licensee. This may allow the imposition of a royalty or license fee arrangement between the third party/licensor and the operator/licensee based on the dimensions of the base images and/or the single merged image produced.

Please replace paragraph [0046] with the following amended paragraph:

[0046] ~~[FIGURE 9] FIGURES 9A - 9F [shows a] show~~ schematic ~~[view] views~~ of an image adjustment process which may be applied to a merged image of the present invention to correct or allow for inaccuracies in the output equipment.

Please replace paragraph [0047] with the following amended paragraph:

[0047] With reference to Figure 1, a process for the creation of a merged digital image is there illustrated which exemplifies the present invention. The process illustrated in Figure 1 uses four base images and the pattern applied is a square grid ~~[illustrated in Figure 1a] 10A~~. It is to be understood that "pattern" as used throughout this specification is intended to mean anything fashioned or designed to serve as a model or guide for something to be made.

Please replace paragraphs [0051] - [0058] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0051] With particular reference to a first base image ~~[illustrated in Figure 1b] 11~~, each adapted image of the respective base images 11, 12, 13 and 14 is created by deleting or rendering transparent a number of cells and/or regions simulating spacings which relate to the positions of cells and/or regions of the respective other base images in the merged image. Each base image has a horizontal aspect and vertical aspect. The deletion or rendering transparent of each of the cells and/or regions provides a transparent portion of the adapted image wherein every second column horizontally is transparent starting with the second column, as is every second row in a vertical aspect of the image starting with the second row. ~~[As can be seen from Figure 1b, the]~~ The cells and/or regions of the first base 11 image corresponding to cells and/or regions located in every second column starting with the second column have been deleted or

rendered transparent so that after creating the adapted image of the first base image 11, these cells and/or regions appear as transparent.

[0052] Similarly, the cells and/or regions of the first base image 11 corresponding to cells and/or regions located at every second row starting with the second row have been deleted or rendered transparent so that after creating the adapted image of the first base image 11, these cells and/or regions appear as transparent. Similar transformations are performed on each of the other alternate rows of the first base image 11 to form the adapted image of the first base image 11. The transformations are applied on a grid basis by retaining all of the cells and/or regions which the digital grid has numbered "1" and deleting all of the other cells and/or regions of the first base image 11.

[0053] ~~[As can be seen in Figure 1c, the]~~ The cells and/or regions of the second base image 12 corresponding to cells and/or regions located in every second column starting with the first column have been deleted or rendered transparent so that after creating the adapted image of the second base image 12, these cells and/or regions appear as transparent.

[0054] Similarly, the cells and/or regions of the second base image 12 corresponding to cells and/or regions located in every second row starting with the second row have been deleted or rendered transparent so that after creating the adapted image of the second base image 12, these cells and/or regions appear as transparent. Similar transformations are performed on each of the other alternate rows and columns of the second base image to form the adapted image of the second base image 12. The deletion or rendering transparent of each cells and/or regions provides a transparent portion of the adapted image wherein every second column starting with the first column is transparent as is every second row of the image starting with the second row. The transformations are applied on a grid basis by retaining all of the cells and/or regions which the digital grid has numbered "2" and deleting or rendering transparent all of the other cells and/or regions of the second base image 12.

[0055] ~~[As can be seen from Figure 1d, the]~~ The cells and/or regions of the third base image 13 corresponding to cells and/or regions located in every second column starting with the first column have been deleted or rendered transparent so that after creating the adapted image of the third base image 13, these cells and/or regions appear as transparent.

[0056] Similarly, the cells and/or regions of the third base image 13 corresponding to cells and/or regions located in every second row starting with the first row have been deleted or rendered transparent so that after creating the adapted image of the third base image 13, these cells and/or regions appear as transparent. Similar transformations are performed on each of the other alternate rows and columns of the third base image 13 to form the adapted image of the third base image 13. The deletion or rendering transparent of each cells and/or regions provides a transparent portion of the adapted image wherein every second column starting with the first column is transparent as is every second row of the image starting with the first row. The transformations are applied on a grid basis by retaining all of the cells and/or regions which the digital grid has numbered "3" and deleting all of the other cells and/or regions of the third base image 13.

[0057] The cells and/or regions of the fourth base image 14 corresponding to cells and/or regions located in every second column starting with the second column have been deleted or rendered transparent so that after creating the adapted image of the fourth base image 14, these cells and/or regions appear as transparent.

[0058] Similarly, the cells and/or regions of the fourth base image 14 corresponding to cells and/or regions located in every second row starting with the first row have been deleted or rendered transparent so that after creating the adapted image of the fourth base image 14, these cells and/or regions appear as transparent. Similar transformations are performed on each of the other alternate rows and columns of the fourth base image to form the adapted image of the fourth base image 14. The deletion or rendering transparent of each cells and/or region provides a transparent portion of the adapted image wherein every second column starting with the second column is transparent as is every second row of the image starting with the first row. The transformations are applied on a grid basis by retaining all of the cells and/or regions which the digital grid has numbered "4" and deleting all of the other cells and/or regions of the fourth base image 14.

Please replace paragraph [0060] with the following amended paragraph:

[0060] Once the deletion of the sections has been accomplished or they have been rendered transparent, a transparent portion is then interposed between the cells and/or regions of each respective adapted image. The provision of a transparent portion in all adapted images 11, 12, 13 and 14 allows the adapted images to be layered or laid one on top of the other without the overlap or obfuscation of any of the cells and/or regions of the respective adapted images. The layered images are then flattened or merged into the single merged image 10 as seen in Figure 1[f], to be used in the display using a screen or grid as described above and in the prior art.

Please replace paragraph [0072] with the following amended paragraph:

[0072] ~~[Figure-9] Figures 9A-9F [illustrates]~~ illustrate the application of the distortion correction technique to the merged image. Figures 9a (parallelogram), 9c (radial) and 9e (waveform) ~~[shows]~~ show example situations which may occur if an output device such as a printer or the like has an innate error which results in distortion of the merged ~~[image]~~ image when output. As may be appreciated, the distortion of a complex merged image may result in the image being unusable in a system for displaying the merged image. The present invention allows the application of a correction algorithm to the merged image or the file containing the merged image so that when output, the merged image is distortion free as illustrated in Figures 9b, 9d and 9f. The correction algorithm generally distorts the merged image digitally to account for the distortion which takes place during output of the image.